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April 18, 1961

Dr. Bengt V. Hofsten  
Uppsala Universitet  
Biotekniska Institutionen  
Uppsala, Sweden

Dear Dr. Hofsten:

Thank you for your letter of March 29. I was especially pleased to learn of your success in separating the  $\sigma$  and  $\phi$  cells. It is difficult to discuss the subtleties at this distance but I will be very happy to see Dr. Albertsson here in June for the purpose. I do think it would be advantageous for you to compare  $F^+$  and  $Hfr$  cells as two distinct type of  $\sigma$ . You should have controls to be sure that  $\sigma/\phi$  is the determinative marker in the separation and not any of the several other markers of the strains. The necessary strains should be made up ~~be~~ fresh and currently tested for complete controls. If it is convenient to wait for Dr. Albertsson's visit, this would be the most constructive for the discussion. Meanwhile I am sure that Dr. Bertani could also advise you further.

Cordially,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

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HOFSTEN, B.